

**Rachel Carson State Office Building**  
**P.O. Box 2063**  
**Harrisburg, PA 17105-2063**  
September 28, 2004

**Secretary**

717-787-2814

The Honorable Michael O. Leavitt  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Ariel Rios Building, 1101A  
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20460

Dear Administrator Leavitt:

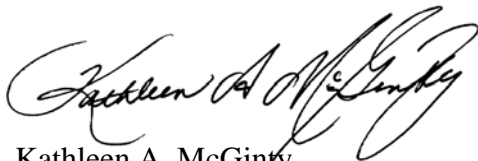
On behalf of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Pennsylvania Coal Association and United Mine Workers of America, I am writing to request a meeting with you concerning the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's proposed mercury reduction rule.

EPA's proposed rule would put Pennsylvania at a competitive disadvantage and harm the state's economy by requiring more stringent emissions standards for cleaner-burning bituminous coal mined in Pennsylvania than for coal mined in the West. We believe this proposal is bad for public health and bad for Pennsylvania's economy, and we welcome the opportunity discuss in person with you the very real and significant economic dislocation for Pennsylvania's coal industry.

While the Commonwealth, PCA and UMWA disagree on some key aspects of EPA's proposed rule, we agree on one overriding fact: the prejudicial treatment of Pennsylvania coal as represented in this proposed rule is seriously injurious to our state's environment and economy.

We greatly appreciate your interest and look forward to meeting with you at your earliest convenience. If further information is needed, please contact Ms. Barbara A. Sexton or me at the above number. Ms. Sexton can also be contacted by e-mail at [basexton@state.pa.us](mailto:basexton@state.pa.us).

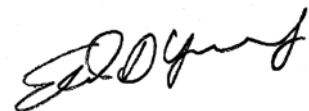
Sincerely,



Kathleen A. McGinty  
Secretary  
Department of Environmental  
Protection



George Ellis  
President  
Pennsylvania Coal  
Association



Ed Yanovich  
District 2 President  
United Mine Workers  
of America

cc: Jeffrey Holmstead, EPA